

Testimonial for House Judiciary Committee
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I truly believe there will be a cure for cancer, if they continue to do research. I'm on a new drug myself, and it wasn't available even 5 years ago. I just can't help but think of friends who could have used it and would have survived. As for me; I would probably be dead if I didn't have access to this new medication.

The biggest risk I see in changing the laws right now would be that, I really believe, the drug companies would be very hesitant, or at least somewhat reluctant, to work on new drugs. It's like this 'weight' has been lifted off of me, because before, they had told me, 'you're going to have a good quality of life for a couple of years, but the prognosis isn't good', but I personally think my second prognosis was a whole lot better. I mean, who knows what will happen, but it's like I'm *getting* the cure instead of *waiting* for the cure.

It's my responsibility to manage my own healthcare, in partnership with a doctor (because I simply don't know all of the medical details). It is just so important for people to really take charge of their own healthcare. I have high hopes that there will be a breakthrough that cures cancer completely, and I'm going to be able to live to watch my daughter get married and see my grandchildren. I can 'grow a garden', or whatever I want, because now I don't have to constantly be worrying about 'how am I going to get well?' or 'am I going to get well?' That's the biggest thing for me.